

MILNROW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCILANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1950TO THE HEALTH COMMITTEE OF THE URBAN DISTRICT OF MILNROW

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting my twenty-second Annual Report of the Urban District of Milnrow, and shall commence by placing before you the General Statistics from which this report is formed.

Population.

The estimated population for 1950 is 8,596 with an acreage of 5,194 acres. The census of 1931 gave the number of inhabited houses to be 2,574, the number of families or separate occupiers 2,575 and the total population 8,623.

The rateable value of the district is £51,359 and the sum represented by the Penny Rate is £214.

The population is industrial and is occupied mainly with cotton spinning, the engineering trade and the wool trade, none of which has any peculiar influence on the public health.

VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Births in 1950.	134	73	61
Deaths in 1950.	126	63	63
Deaths in infants under one year	3	1	2
Still Births	2	1	1

Rates per 1,000 of population

	Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Phthisis Death Rate	Cancer Death Rate	Rates of Deaths under 1 year to 1000 Births	Maternal Mortality Rate per 1000 Live and Still Births
1950	15.6	14.7	0.12	-	22	-
1949	17.1	15.0	0.35	2.00	41	6.80
Mean of (Five years) (1945-1949)	17.9	14.0	0.27	2.14	48	2.66
Increase or decrease in 1950 on 5 years average 1945-49	-2.3	-0.7	-0.15	-	-26	-2.66
Previous year difference	-1.5	-0.3	-0.23	-	-19	-6.80

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE OF DISTRICT  
DURING 1950 AND PREVIOUS YEARS

Year	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births		Deaths		Infantile Deaths		Maternal Mortality.	
		No.	Rate	No.	Rate	under 1 year	Rate	Deaths	Rate
1933	8460	117	13.8	133	15.7	7	59	Nil	
1934	8446	113	13.3	119	14.1	5	44	Nil	
1935	8406	98	11.6	121	14.3	8	81	1	9.7
1936	8287	95	11.4	110	13.2	2	21	1	10.2
1937	8058	96	11.9	117	14.5	4	41	Nil	
1938	8033	98	12.1	110	13.6	6	61	Nil	
1939	8375	105	12.5	126	15.1	5	47	2	18.
1940	8072	118	14.6	116	14.3	3	25	1	8.06
1941	7895	117	14.8	115	14.5	5	42	Nil	
1942	7663	110	14.3	90	11.7	6	54	Nil	
1943	7520	116	15.4	108	14.3	9	77	Nil	
1944	7661	129	16.8	97	12.6	2	15.5	1	7.75
1945	7671	131	17.0	111	14.4	9	68	Nil	
1946	8134	147	18.0	105	12.9	6	40	Nil	
1947	8290	166	20.0	112	13.5	5	50	Nil	
1948	8418	145	17.2	117	13.2	9	62	1	6.66
1949	8514	146	17.1	128	14.3	6	43	1	6.80
1950	8596	134	15.6	126	14.7	3	15	Nil	

Birth Rate.

In 1950 the live births belonging to this district were 73 males and 61 females.

The Birth Rate in 1950 was	15.6
The Birth Rate in 1949 was	17.1
The decrease in 1950 on the previous year was	1.5
The Birth Rate for England and Wales in 1950 was	15.8

Death Rate.

In 1950 the deaths belonging to this district were 63 males and 63 females.

The death rate for 1950 was	14.7
The death rate for 1949 was	15.0
The decrease in 1950 on the previous year was	0.3
The death rate for England and Wales in 1950 was	11.6

In 1950 the registered births exceeded the deaths by 8.  
In 1949 the registered births exceeded the deaths by 18.

During the year 53 people belonging to the district died outside it.

Birch Hill Hospital	39
Rochdale Infirmary	5
Liverpool Radium Institute	1
Calderstones, Whalley	1
Royal Infirmary, Manchester	2
Rossendale General Hospital	1
Marland Hospital	1
Liverpool	1
Coventry	1
Glossop	1

The causes of death were :-

Tuberculosis respiratory	1
Tuberculosis other	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus.	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	11
Vascular lesions of nervous system	21
Coronary disease, angina	6
Hypertension with heart disease	8
Other heart diseases	34
Other circulatory diseases	6
Pneumonia	2
Bronchitis	14
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	1
Congenital malformations	1
Other defined and ill defined diseases	12
Motor vehicle accident	1
Suicide	1
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	126

## Infantile Mortality

During 1950 there were 3 deaths of infants under one year, the causes of death being :-

Acute congestion of the lungs	1
Prematurity	2
The Infantile Mortality Rate in 1950 was	15
The Infantile Mortality Rate in 1949 was	41
The decrease in 1950 on the previous year was	26
The Maternal Mortality during 1950 was	Nil
The Maternal Mortality during 1949 was	6.80
The Infantile Mortality Rate for England and Wales was	29.8

Causes of Infectious Diseases notified  
during the year, 1950

[illegible]



The Death rate for Pulmonary T.B. in 1950 was 0.27  
The Death Rate for Pulmonary T.B. in 1949 was 0.35

Under the National Health Service Act the county is divided into 17 administrative divisions.

Milnrow is in Number 13 district which is composed of Bacup, Heywood, Littleborough, Milnrow, Wardle and Whitworth.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Clinic. There is a Maternity and Child Welfare clinic.  
(Consultation) open every Tuesday 2-0 to 4-0 p.m.

Ante Natal Cases attend clinic in Rochdale by arrangements or 1 Wesley Street when the clinic is open.

Midwifery Domiciliary midwifery is carried out by midwives under the control of the Lancashire County Council.

Home Helps There are two home helps in the district.

Cleansing Centre Cases requiring treatment are treated at the Cleansing centre in Rochdale.

Immunisation Clinics are held monthly at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre on the first Wednesday in every month.

Ambulance Facilities The Ambulance service is administered by the Lancashire County Council and the Ambulance Station is at Littleborough.

Infectious Diseases The hospitals are administered by the Regional Hospital Board.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Yours obediently,

O.R.I.LOVE, M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

MILNROW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,

MILNROW.

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector for the Year 1950

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee of the Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting to you my sixth Annual Report of the sanitary conditions of the district.

As I have mentioned in my previous reports the housing situation is the greatest problem.

The number of applications for a council house on the register at the end of the year was 359 made up as follows :-

- 232 two bedroom houses
- 68 three bedroom houses
- 3 four bedroom houses
- 31 bungalows
- 14 single persons flats
- 1 two bedroom flat
- 10 applications from tenants of Council houses for flats.

Of these applications there are 125 families living in lodgings.

The present allocation of houses by the Ministry for erection in this district is 25 per year.

If the allocation remains the same and progress in building remains at the same rate as at present it will be appreciated that it will take at least 6 years to provide the families in lodgings with a separate house.

Added to this will be the number of additional applications received from other families living in lodgings.

To complete the housing requirements as the housing register stands at present it will take 14 years to satisfy this demand.

In view of the need for relieving the present housing shortage it will be appreciated that the closure and demolition of many of the substandard houses cannot be considered now.

The desire of the Council is to improve the standard of housing accommodation of the district, but under the present circumstances it will be a considerable time before the closure and demolition of many substandard houses can be carried out.

The position of the housing programme at the end of the year was :-

SCHEME NO. 2. 16 houses have been completed and tenanted. The remaining 12 houses are roofed and now in course of completion.

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### FLATS, DALTON AVENUE

The Council have received permission to erect 50 flats on the Dalton Avenue site.

16 one bedroom flats.  
16 two bedroom flats.  
18 single person flats.

It is hoped that tenants of council houses who are at present occupying accommodation which is larger than they require will be willing to move to flats and release the larger accommodation for families.

### SCHOOLS

A special report was prepared on the Sanitary accommodation, washing and meal facilities at the schools in the district.

A copy of the report was forwarded to the separate authorities and suggestions made for improving the conditions.

It is hoped that improvements will be made in the conditions at these schools.

During the year one Demolition Order was made under Section 11, Housing Act 1936.

Three houses on which Demolition Orders had been made have been demolished.

Application was made under Section 2, Housing Act 1939 to the court for the quashing of the demolition order made on No. 19 Broad Lane on the 12th March, 1941. The application was granted and the order quashed.

### ASHBINS

On the 1st April the scheme for the provision and maintenance of ashbins by the Council came into operation. The scheme has operated very satisfactorily.

### FOOD.

The Council made Bye-laws under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act 1938 for securing the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food sold or intended for sale for human consumption, and in connection with the sale or exposure for sale in the open air of food intended for human consumption.







## HOUSING STATISTICS FOR 1950

Number of houses erected during the year :-

By other bodies or persons	10
By Local Authority	16
Number in course of erection under present contract	12

The housing position at the end of the year was :-

### Scheme No. 2.

- 2 1st fixing of woodwork complete.  
Firegrates and ranges complete.
- 6 Complete with second fixing of woodwork.
- 4 1st fixing of woodwork complete.  
Firegrates and ranges complete.

### I. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the Year

1a. Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	178
1b. Number of inspections made for the purpose	178
2a. Number of dwellinghouses (including under sub-heading (1) above, which were inspected and recorded under Housing Regulations 1925-32	Nil
2b. Number of inspections made for the purpose.	-
3. Number of dwellinghouses found to be in such a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1
4. Number of dwellinghouses (inclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	87

### II. Remedy of Defects during the Year without the Service of Formal Notice.

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or its officers.	77
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### III. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year

a. Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936.	Nil
b. Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.	Nil

### IV. Housing Act 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.

a. (i) Number of dwellinghouses overcrowded at the end of the year.	2
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein.	2
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein.	16
b. Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year.	2
c. (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.	2
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases.	12

Section 1

1. The first part of the document is a list of names and addresses. The names are written in a cursive hand, and the addresses are written in a more formal, printed hand. The list is organized into two columns, with names on the left and addresses on the right.

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## PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

The total number of houses inspected during the year was 295, of this total 97 houses were inspected owing to the occurrence of infectious diseases. The remaining inspections were made on account of general defects, overcrowding etc.

Other inspections made are shown on Table A and nuisances abated in Table B.

There were 79 informal notices issued and 2 statutory notices served.

## WATER SUPPLY

The water supply for the district is from Rochdale and Oldham Corporations and is a direct supply to the houses.

During the year strong representations were made to the Rochdale Corporation regarding the lack of pressure in certain areas of the district, also discolouration which occurs periodically.

Two meetings were held with the members of the Rochdale Corporation Waterworks Committee.

The result of these representations is that a portion of the Haugh Ward is now supplied from the Oldham Corporation supply, and the pressure has been greatly improved.

During the year 4 samples of water supplied by Rochdale Corporation have been taken.

The results of the bacteriological examination were satisfactory.

Regarding the chemical analysis the Analyst was concerned regarding the high figure for free ammonia and the presence of nitrites.

This matter has been discussed with the Rochdale Waterworks Engineer and the matter investigated, alterations to the filter plant are being considered.

There are no stand pipes in the district.

Of the 3070 houses in the district 2871 are supplied from the mains. The houses not receiving mains water are those scattered throughout the district where a water main is not available, and are farms, farm cottages and small hamlets.

## RATS AND MICE INFESTATIONS

This problem has received attention during the year. 107 visits have been made for rats and mice infestations.

28 Infestations were of Rats.

25 Infestations were of Mice.

1149 Poison baits were laid with takes from 403.





The number of premises involved was :-

Business premises	16
Dwellinghouses	26
Refuse Tip	6
Sewage Works	5

A test bait of the sewers was carried out, 23 manholes were baited. I am pleased to report that no bait was taken.

There were no cases of infestation of a serious nature.

### SCAVENGING.

The Sanitary accommodation at the end of the year was

Fresh water closets	2678
Waste water closets	71
Pail closets	226
Ashbins	2598

The sanitary accommodation at one factory is under reconstruction. At another a connection has been made to the Rochdale Sewer and the sanitary accommodation is being reconstructed from Pail closets to W.C.'s.

60 new W.C.'s have been installed.

199 ashbins have been renewed and 18 additional bins have been provided.

From the 1st April the scheme for the provision and renewal of ashbins by the local authority and charged to rate fund was put into operation.

### REFUSE TIP, COLLECTION AND SALVAGE

All domestic refuse is collected by two refuse collection vehicles and is disposed of by controlled tipping on the Council tip.

The amount of salvage and kitchen waste collected was :-

	T.	C.	
Kitchen waste	88	1	0
Scrap metal	8	10	0
Copper		8	2
Aluminium		3	0

Kitchen waste is collected and taken to the Rochdale Corporation Cleansing Department for sterilization and manufactured into pig food.

### DRAINAGE

All drainage work carried out has been inspected. 40 visits having been made.

### FACTORIES

There are 54 factories in the district, 52 mechanical and 2 non-mechanical. These are made up as follows :-



### Mechanical Factories

11 Cotton Spinners	1 Brickworks
2 Waste Mills	5 Bleaching and Dyeing Works
1 Flannel Manufacturer	1 Surgical Cotton Manufacturers.
1 Paper Tube manufacturer	1 Quarry
4 Engineering works	4 Joiners
1 Woodwork machinists	11 Bakehouses.
1 Laundry	3 Garages
1 Plumber	1 Wool sorter
1 Electrical Engineer	1 Hides, skips and pickers.
1 Printers.	

### Non-Mechanical Factories

2 Plumbers.

During the year visits were made to factories re sanitary accommodation, canteens and boiler plant.

### FOOD PREPARING PREMISES AND FOOD SHOPS

There are 20 bakehouses and 50 visits have been made to these premises. The general standard of cleanliness is good.

The ovens at these bakehouses are heated by gas, electricity and solid fuel. 10 gas, 2 electricity and 8 solid fuel.

### FOOD SHOPS

There are 15 butchers shops, 11 Fried Fish and Chip shops, 26 Grocery and Provisions, 21 confectioners, 14 greengrocery and fish, 12 Ice Cream retailers.

64 visits have been made to food preparing premises and food shops. Many shops have refrigerators. A good standard of cleanliness has been maintained.

### MILK

#### Samples taken during the Year

	No. Taken	T. B.		Methy. Blue	
		N.	P.	S.	N.S.
Dairy Farms	5	5	-	4	1

#### Schools Milk

All milk supplied to schools is "Pasteurised" and supplied in  $\frac{1}{3}$  pint bottles with straws.

	No. Taken	T. B.		Methy. Blue		Phosphatase	
		N.	P.	S.	N.S.	S.	N.S.
	9	9	-	9	-	9	-
<u>Day Nursery</u>	3	3	-	3	-	3	-

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MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (PASTEURISED AND STERILIZED MILK)  
REGULATIONS 1949.

23 Licenses have been granted to use the designation "Sterilized" and 2 "Pasteurised" Milk.

4 Licenses have been granted for the sale of "Tuberculin Tested"

FOOD AND DRUGS

A total of 41 samples was obtained, of these 36 were of milk (29 formal and 7 informal) and the 5 others comprised :-

- 3 Sponge Cake and sponge pudding mixture.
- 1 Sponge cake and sponge pudding mixture, sweetened.
- 1 Yorkshire Pudding mixture.

All the above samples were certified by the County Analyst to be genuine with the exception of the following :-

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis.</u>	<u>Action taken.</u>
1 formal milk	Deficient 6.6 per cent fat ) and slightly low in solids- ) not-fat )	Vendor notified
1 formal milk	Deficient 6.4 per cent ) solids-not-fat. The ) freezing point indicated ) the presence of 1.6 per ) cent of extraneous water. )	Same Vendor Vendor cautioned and further samples obtained.
1 sponge cake and sponge pudding mixture.	Infested with live mites ) ) ) )	Stock examined and Vendor written.

The undermentioned foodstuffs have been examined and condemned as unfit for human consumption :-

- 2 Tins Salmon.
- 2 " Pilchards
- 3 " Peas
- 1 " Grapes
- 2 " Rabbit
- 36 " Milk
- 1 " Sild.
- 2 " Sardines
- 1 " Chopped Pork
- 2 " Luncheon Meat.
- 7 Packets Sponge.

SHOPS ACTS

The following is a list of shops in the district :-

- |                           |                                |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 21 Confectioners          | 14 Greengrocery and Fish       |
| 15 Butchers               | 1 Gowns                        |
| 8 Boot and shoe           | 10 Hairdressers.               |
| 2 Chemists.               | 7 Hardware.                    |
| 1 Corn Merchant           | 8 Newsagents.                  |
| 10 Drapery                | 1 Paint & Varnish & Wallpaper. |
| 2 Electrical goods        | 2 Second Hand Dealers.         |
| 12 Fried Fish and Chip    | 1 Tripe                        |
| 1 Fancy goods             | 1 Watch and clock              |
| 25 Grocery and provisions | 6 Sweets and Tobacco.          |
| 1 Cycle accessories.      |                                |



## LICENSED PREMISES

22 Public Houses,  
8 Clubs.  
2 Off Licenses.

149 visits have been made to shops during the year.

The shops are mainly family business except the Co-operative stores and a few multiple shops.

The provisions of the Shops Acts are being complied with.

## SMOKE ABATEMENT

The industrial chimneys are kept under observation and every effort is made to prevent the emission of large quantities of smoke.

## INFECTION AND DISINFECTION.

There were 97 cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year.

Measles	22
Scarlet Fever	28
Whooping Cough	38
Erysipelas	1
Tuberculosis	
Pulmonary	5
Non Pulmonary	1
Menigitis	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	1

29 of the cases of Infectious Diseases notified were removed to hospital.

49 rooms have been fumigated with formaldehyde.

I wish to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their help and consideration in the exercise of my duties as Sanitary Inspector.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

H. NUNN.

Sanitary Inspector.





TABLE "A"

Investigations of Infectious Diseases (notifiable)	97
No. of houses inspected.	295
Re-inspections	175
Inspection of Factories.	33
Inspection of Farms	14
Inspection of Bakehouses	50
Inspection of Food preparing premises	64
Inspection of Ice Cream Shops	8
Inspection of Fried Fish and Chip Shops	17
Inspection of Licensed premises	7
Inspection of Schools	23
Inspection of Tip	33
Visits re Rats and Mice	107
Inspection of drainage	40
Visits re applications for Council houses	59
Inspection of shops	149
Inspection of Day Nursery	2
Visits re ashbin accommodation	10
Miscellaneous visits	141
Visits to Housing site	30
Visits re keeping of animals	2
Visits re Water supply	9
Visits re removal of rubbish	8
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	1373
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TABLE "B"

NUISANCES ABATED

Repairs to Sanitary accommodation	2
Eavesgutters repaired	6
Roof repairs	12
Flooded cellars	4
Gas leakages repaired	4
Choked drains released	20
Burst water services repaired	6
Leaking sink waste pipes repaired	3
Window frames repaired	6
Fireplaces repaired	3
W.C. Seats renewed	4
Defective flues repaired	2
Cesspool repaired	1
Pail closet repaired	1
Tipping of refuse	1
W.C. cistern repaired	1
W.C. door repaired	1
Plastering repaired	4
Door repaired	2
R.W.P. repaired	2
Dirty conditions	1
Dampness	3
Path repaired	1
Overcrowding relieved	1
Ashbins renewed	199
Additional ashbins provided	18
Rat Infestations	28
Mice Infestations	25
Floor boards repaired	1
Window cords	1
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	363
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